BEFORE THE ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

VERIZON NORTH INC.,)		
VERIZON SOUTH INC. AND)		
EGYPTIAN COMMUNICATIONS)		
SERVICES, INC.)		
)	_	
Joint Petition of Verizon North Inc.,)		
Verizon South Inc. and)		
Egyptian Communications)		
Services, Inc.)		
For Approval Pursuant To 47 U.S.C.)		
§§ 252 (a)(1) and 252(e),)		
of an Interconnection Agreement)		

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT AMONG VERIZON NORTH INC., VERIZON SOUTH INC. AND EGYPTIAN COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.

Verizon North Inc. and Verizon South Inc. (collectively "Verizon"), Joint

Petitioners herein, and pursuant to Ill. Admin. Code tit. 83 § 763.110(a), make the

following Statement in Support of an Interconnection Agreement Among Verizon North

Inc., Verizon South Inc. and Egyptian Communications Services, Inc.

- The filed Agreement ("Agreement") between Verizon and Egyptian
 Communications Services, Inc., <u>Exhibit 1</u>, was voluntarily negotiated among the parties.
- 2. Verizon will make the arrangements set forth in the proposed Agreement available, on the same terms and conditions, to any duly authorized telecommunications carrier operating in Venison's territories within the State of Illinois. Thus, the filed Agreement is non-discriminatory.
- 3. Among other things, the filed Agreement establishes the terms and conditions for the interconnection, resale and unbundling of telecommunications services.

Such agreements are to be encouraged. Thus, the filed Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

4. The rates set forth in the agreement are reasonable and compensatory.

THEREFORE, Verizon respectfully requests the proposed Interconnection

Agreement Among Verizon North Inc., Verizon South Inc., and Egyptian

Communications Services, Inc. be approved as filed.

Respectfully submitted this _____ day of ______ 2002.

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James R. Hargrave Assistant Vice President-Public Policy & External Affairs